

Press Release

June 29, 2005

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY MICHAEL CHERTOFF ON THE ADMINISTRATION RESPONSE TO THE COMMISSION ON THE INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITIES OF THE UNITED STATES REGARDING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

"The recommendations from the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction Report have helped guide the Department of Homeland Security as we near completion of our Department-wide review in an effort to ensure that we are in the best position to manage risk, enhance our detection capabilities, and improve our intelligence analysis and sharing.

The report also confirms the importance of enhanced coordination of the nation's counterproliferation and intelligence efforts and for better nuclear detection capabilities. This reinforces the need for the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) established earlier this year by the Department of Homeland Security. The DNDO provides a single organization dedicated to developing advanced nuclear detection architecture and supporting the deployment of domestic detection systems to prevent a nuclear device or radiological material from being smuggled into our country.

We will actively work with our intelligence community partners and homeland security officials at the federal, state and local levels to implement the Commission's recommendations for making the homeland more secure."

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